



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

# **Cordell Hull Lake**

## *LakeCasts*

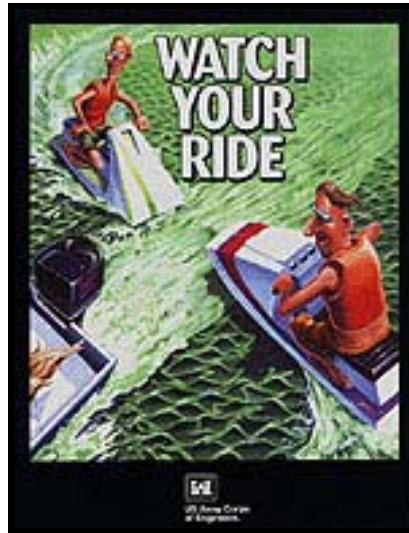
**Spring/Summer 2002**

### **Welcome Back To Cordell Hull**

As the recreation season approaches, we want to remind everyone that Cordell Hull Lake offers a variety of campgrounds, picnic shelters, and day use areas around the lake. We have three campgrounds, seven picnic shelters, and numerous day use areas.

Salt Lick Creek Campground has 150 campsites, all with electric and water hookups and 43 with sewer hookups. By removing some of the undergrowth around the sites, we have opened up the campground while still allowing a feeling of privacy and plenty of shade at most sites. This campground is a great weekend or vacation destination away from some of the more crowded areas. The abundant hardwoods in the campground support a variety of wildlife. The area opens May 16. Consider camping at Salt Lick this summer, you'll be glad you did!

Indian Creek Campground is our smallest with 53 sites, 32 of which have electric and water hookups. This is a pristine campground and great for those looking to escape the



busy atmosphere of our larger parks. If you still like to camp in a smaller park, this is the place for you. Indian Creek also opens May 16.

Defeated Creek Campground is our largest camping area. There are 155 sites; all have water and electric hookups and 63 sites have sewer hookups. This is our most visited campground and the open atmosphere creates a busy camping community. Defeated Creek opened April 12.

### **2002 Campground Schedule**

Defeated Creek  
Opens April 12  
Closes October 28

Phone: (615)774-3141\*

Salt Lick  
Opens May 16  
Closes September 3  
Phone: (615)678-4781\*

Indian Creek  
Opens May 16  
Closes September 3  
Phone: (615)897-2233\*  
\* for information only

Cordell Hull Lake also has seven picnic shelters available for reunions, company picnics, or other activities. They are located at Defeated Creek Campground, Defeated Creek Day Use Area, Cordell Hull Dam site, Salt Lick Creek Campground, Wartrace Creek Park, Roaring River Park, and Indian Creek Park. Picnic shelters may be used without a reservation, but if a reservation has been made for a shelter on a



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particular day, then the party who reserved the shelter has priority to it. If no reservation has been made for a shelter, then anyone who wishes to use the picnic shelter may do so on a first come first serve basis. Reservations for picnic shelters may be made up to 360 days in advance through the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS). Once again, the only way to assure the use of a shelter on a particular day is to make a reservation.

## NRRS

All reservations for campsites and picnic shelters must be made by contacting the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS).

The National Recreation Reservation Service is in charge of making reservations to Corps of Engineers Campgrounds throughout the country. They can answer any questions you may have concerning the campgrounds. For example, if you need to know if your rig will fit on a specific site, they can tell you. They also know which sites are equipped with sewer and other valuable information. With the NRRS, walk-in camping is only available on a limited basis. If a campsite is not reserved, then that site may be available. However, the only way you will be assured that a campsite is available is to make reservations with through the NRRS. Reservations may be made 24 hours a day and up to 240 days in advance, but must be made within 2 days of your arrival. Campgrounds are already filling

up for the 2002 recreation season, have you made your reservations yet?

## Water Safety

You can be your own worst enemy or your own best friend on the water. Here at Cordell Hull, we want everyone to put water safety high on the priority list for 2002. It's always a good idea to wear your life jacket, especially when the boat is under power. Also, leave a flight plan so that someone will know where you are going and how long you plan to be out. This could save your life. For boating regulations and safety advice, call or come by the Resource Managers Office.

BY THE WAY: The recreation area below the dam closes at 10:00 p.m., no one except fishermen should be in this area after 10:00 p.m.

## Volunteer: Everyone Wins!

Have you ever noticed that everyone likes things that are free! Volunteers don't cost the public anything; the only expense is the person's time. Also, volunteers are a big asset to the Corps, the environment and the community.

At Cordell Hull volunteers do a variety of jobs such as: interpretive programs, hosts in day use areas, update bulletin boards, trail work, opening and closing gates, and security checks. They also help out with special events such as the Lakeshore Cleanup, which this

year will be held on September 28. These are only a few of the things you can participate in. To volunteer call the Volunteer Hotline at 1-800-865-8337 or Brock Jones at the Resource Manager's Office. We appreciate all the volunteers we've had in the past, and look forward to working with more of you in the future.

## Food For Thought:

The small tree may be thought of as insignificant, but the smaller bush that only grows in the shade provided by the tree provides even more protection for the flower that grows around the bush. Then the flower is the food source that attracts the insect, which falls into the water and gets eaten by the fish that have hatched because other fish spawned around the roots of the tree.

Every species has its own list of what it needs to survive. Many times other neighboring species of plants and animals are necessary for their survival. This is one of our largest concerns when thinking about shoreline management. All of the vegetation on public land plays a role in maintaining biodiversity and keeping a healthy population of all species. Since everything around the lake is related in one way or another, eliminating one species can have a damaging effect on another. The diversity of the shoreline is a key element in maintaining a healthy lake.

## Keep It Clean

Debris and garbage have a bad habit of finding their way to the shoreline of Cordell Hull. In order to keep our

lake as clean and beautiful as possible, we have an annual cleanup day. This year's cleanup is on National Public Lands Day, Saturday, September 28. Mark your calendar now and plan to help out. As the time approaches, contact the Resource Managers Office for more information.

## The Dividing Line

When you build or purchase a home adjacent to public property, please be sure that you know the exact location of the boundary line. Many landowners mistakenly believe that trees that have yellow paint marks on them indicate the exact location of the public property line. Actually, the yellow paint indicates on which side of the tree the property line is located. The line is usually close to these painted trees, but a survey is required to determine the actual property line.

Information on the government property line can be obtained by a visit to the Resource Manager's Office located near Cordell Hull Dam. If you have a question pertaining to the public property line, a ranger will be glad to meet with you on-site.

## Protecting Our Natural Resources

Management Objectives at Cordell Hull Lake include protecting public lands from the destruction of trees and other features of a naturally occurring shoreline. In many cases, the narrow strip of

public land along Cordell Hull is the only buffer zone that protects the water itself. A buffer zone has many important environmental advantages such as slowing down runoff, allowing rainfall to penetrate into the water table, and retarding the siltation process. In order to preserve the water resource for future generations while providing quality recreation opportunities for today's visitor, private exclusive use of public lands at Cordell Hull Lake is prohibited. Private shoreline use facilities, activities or development are not permitted. However, a land use permit may be obtained for a four-foot wide meandering path. These permits allow rangers to help plan the path and maintain a record of activity on the shoreline.

Any activity other than the planned and approved pathway is considered an encroachment. An encroachment is the construction, placement or continued existence of any structure or item of any kind under, upon, in or over project lands or waters. Encroachments also include destruction, injury, defacement, removal, or any alteration of public property including natural formations, historical and archaeological features, and vegetative growth.

Tree vandalism is also a serious problem around the lake. This is anything that causes harm to a tree on public property. Such instances will be treated very seriously by this office. One way of looking at this is as follows: if you would not vandalize a public restroom, why vandalize a tree that belongs to the same public.

The Corps of Engineers requests the

help of all citizens in preventing encroachments on public land. If you see any such activity on public land at Cordell Hull Lake please call the Resource Managers Office.

## Making Our Facilities Accessible

The Corps of Engineers is making efforts to ensure most of our facilities are accessible by everyone. This is an ongoing task due to the terrain surrounding Cordell Hull Lake, but we have made improvements at all of our parks. If you are curious as to the accessibility of a facility or have any suggestions please call the Resource Managers Office. Our disabled users are the best source of information we have on what needs to be done to improve accessibility of our facilities.

## Alcohol, A Factor In Recreation Accidents

We want to welcome everyone to our day use areas where we hope to maintain the same family atmosphere we have in our



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campgrounds. We also wish this to be an incident free recreation season. One step we have taken to assure this is the prohibition of alcohol in all day use areas at Cordell Hull Lake. Research clearly shows how alcohol contributes to fights, accidents, and drowning. We are confident that banning alcohol will not stop people from having a great time at our recreation areas this summer. That's why we are going to avidly enforce the rule. We want everyone to enjoy our parks, but to leave all alcoholic beverages at home. We feel this will make a better recreation season for everyone.

### **For More Information:**

For additional information and lake maps contact the Resource Managers Office. Also, if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please notify this office.

Resource Managers Office  
Cordell Hull Lake  
71 Corps Lane  
Carthage, TN 37030  
Phone:(615)735-1034

### **Hook Into Fishing Information**

There is a telephone number for water conditions at Cordell Hull. The recorded message is updated every weekday and provides lake elevation, water temperature, and generation schedule. You can hear this information by calling: (615) 735-1050. You can also access

information on fishing on our project website at:

**[www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/cor/rec/](http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/cor/rec/)**

### **DID YOU KNOW!**

Water released by Center Hill Dam will be flowing past Carthage in about six hours.